

## IN HEBER VALLEY

"I, *Christina Carlile Giles*, was born November 17, 1849, in Grnsbury, England. My parents were John and Elizabeth Williamson Carlile. After joining the Latter-day Saints, or Mormons, in England, my parents were working to go to Utah. So, in 1850, father was able to leave for Utah—Zion. It was a continuous journey until we reached Council Bluffs, here we remained two years. Then father left for Utah with a wagon which was drawn by a yoke of cows and one oxen. Well, I remembered my chore was to give the churn dasher a dash or two at different times during the day as we traveled, then at night mother would take the butter from the churn which we enjoyed very much on our dry bread.

"We went to Provo, then to Palmyra, Utah County, from there father moved to Spanish Fork. Here we lived until 1859, then father moved his family to Provo Valley, later called Heber City. I went out and did house work, a little later I went to work for Mary Giles Crook, wife of John Crook, and here I met my husband William Giles, Jr. In those days, when young folks went courting they would go horseback riding, and sometimes a group of young men and women would go into the woods nearby and gather hops. They would say, 'we are going hopping today.' Hops were used to put in the yeast.

"William and I were married June 13, 1868, in the Endowment House at Salt Lake City. We were the parents of thirteen children, four dying in infancy. I would go to the homes of expectant mothers and take care of them and the babies. William, my husband, had pneumonia in November and died on the 11th, 1895, at the age of fifty years. I was left with nine children. The doctors did all they could to save him. From then on I acted as midwife, which I did for many years. I would go through snow and sunshine to help those mothers who called for me. I helped bring 184 babies into the world."

Christina Carlile Giles was loved by all who knew her. She kept active until about a month before she died. She was ninety-three years of age when she passed away and the Tabernacle was filled to capacity for her services. — Ethel D. Johnson

*Johanna Christine Hamberg Nicol* was born in Odense, Fyen, Denmark, March 11, 1839. She was baptized a member of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints December 14, 1850. Seven years later she had accumulated enough funds through hard work to join the company of converts who left Copenhagen April 18, 1857 for America. When the ship docked in New York harbor Johanna, with other Danish Saints, went by rail to Iowa City, Iowa where she joined the handcart company captained by C. C. A. Christensen. On

September 13, 1857, after a long and wearisome journey, the company arrived in Salt Lake City.

On the 11th of March, 1858 Johanna became the wife of Thomas Nicol, a widower with one child who lived in Heber City. The family moved to Moroni, Sanpete County for a time and then returned to Heber in 1861, where the remainder of her life was spent. During that same year, first an epidemic of scarlet fever and then diphtheria broke out in the small community taking the lives of three of her four children. They were all buried in a single grave. Although heartbroken at the loss of her own children Johanna worked unceasingly to save the lives of others. Realizing her lack of medical training it was then her sincere desire to take the course in nursing and obstetrics being taught by Dr. Romania Pratt Penrose in Salt Lake City. Soon she was selected to go as the representative from Wasatch County. During the months the course was in progress she studied hard and earnestly and when it was completed and the examination passed, she was given a certificate to practice.

After Johanna's return to Heber City her services were in great demand. She soon acquired a horse and buggy of her own for use during the summer months and a one-horse sleigh for winter driving. Every call was answered religiously although zero weather was common during the winter months in that area. "Aunt Hannah," as she was called, was a woman of great faith and she instilled confidence in her patients. She knew no fear and drove alone night or day to any of the seven towns in Wasatch County. For many years she was the leading midwife in the county having nine hundred births to her credit.

Mrs. Nicol was the mother of eleven children of her own and also reared a step-daughter, Dora, who was an invalid for many years. Even in the coldest weather Johanna, with a lantern in her hand, trudged to Dora's home to make her comfortable for the night. During all her years of service to other people her own family was never neglected, for motherhood was a sacred obligation to Johanna. She was extremely resourceful and when she found cases of privation she went to the homes of the more fortunate and secured food and clothing for those in need. Often she took her own medicines made from herbs gathered in the nearby canyons, and oatmeal gruel which helped the patient regain strength. Within her white-fenced lot grew lilacs, roses, pinks, larkspur, the sweet scented bergamot and other varieties and with these she gladdened the hearts of her patients. Her lovely bouquets also gave comfort in times of sorrow.

— Ida M. Kirham

*Ellen Clegg*, the daughter of Isaac and Elizabeth Highman Walmsley, was born January 5, 1816, at Parish Salisbury near Preston, Lancashire, England. She was married to Jonathan Clegg and became



the mother of five children, three sons and two daughters. Her husband joined the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in September 1837 and she became a member March 25, 1838. The Clegg family were among the many converts who sailed on the ship *Horizon* under the supervision of Edward Martin. When they arrived in Iowa City, Iowa, they were assigned to the handcart company under the same leader.

During this tragic trek across the plains Ellen and her good husband would take their lantern and go from tent to tent doing everything in their power to relieve the suffering of the men, women and children. The company arrived in Salt Lake City on the 30th of November, and a few days later the Cleggs left for Provo, Utah County, and then moved to Provo Valley, later called Heber. After she was settled in her new home "Grandma Clegg" continued to bestow love and comfort to those around her. More than one poor mother had reason to bless the name and remember the kindness of Ellen Clegg, midwife. Sometimes she had to go on horseback, sometimes in a sleigh, and more often she had to walk, but her one great thought was that she was going to help some suffering mother struggling in the valley of the shadow of death to give life and happiness to a mother of God's children. Many of the younger children at that time thought Ellen Clegg was really their own grandmother, because they had been taught to call her "Grandma Clegg." At the age of eighty-four years, on October 30, 1899, Ellen Clegg passed away. — Ethel D. Johnson

Christina Howie Lindsay Muir, the eldest child of William Blackwood Howie, was born July 3, 1823, at Craighall, Scotland. When twenty-one years of age she married William Lindsay. They were members of the Mormon Church and their home was the gathering place for missionaries from Utah. William was killed in the coal mines. Before his untimely death, he and Christina had made plans to take their eight children to join the body of the Church in Utah and Christina was determined to carry out that plan. With the aid of the Perpetual Emigrating Fund she with her family boarded the sailing vessel *John J. Boyd* in Liverpool, England for the voyage across the Atlantic. Arriving in New York harbor she and the children made their way to Florence, Nebraska where the westward trek began.

Mrs. Lindsay arrived in Heber Valley in September, 1862, and during the first years the family experienced the many hardships typical of pioneer living on the frontier. She traded clothing for a place to live and a cow, bound wheat in the fields, cooked for men working on the railroad, while the boys hired out to supplement the family income. The baby, Elizabeth, died two weeks after her arrival in her new home.

In the fall of 1863, Christina married George Muir as his plural wife and two sons were born to her, John and George. She took up a homestead in Center Creek and lived on it to obtain title. This land she gave to her sons, John and George Muir. During the years Mrs. Muir served as a midwife in Heber Valley, she traveled from town to town in a buggy, wagon, or on horseback in all kinds of weather. When she was too old to continue nursing the residents of Heber gave a party in her honor to show their appreciation for her many years of service. Christina passed away July 25, 1906, at the age of eighty-three years. — Hazel Lindsay Giles

#### THEY ANSWERED THE CALL TO SERVE

Helen Alcy Tanner Maxfield was born Dec. 18, 1839, in New Liberty, Illinois, the daughter of Nathan and Rachel Winter Smith Tanner. She came to Utah with her father's family, in the *Amasa Lyman Company*, arriving October 13, 1848.

In 1857 Helen Alcy married Elijah Hiatt Maxfield, son of John Ellis and Elizabeth Baker Maxfield, pioneers of 1851. Ten days after their marriage, her husband was called to go east and help bring in a stranded handcart company. After being gone two months, the company arrived hungry and almost frozen. The following spring he was called with an expedition to build stations, roads, raise hay and grain, and help the Saints on the latter part of their journey. It was called the YX or Young Expedition. He rode with the Pony Express; stood guard; carried supplies and mail to Echo Canyon, and fought Indians. Helen Alcy was alone most of the time the first years of their marriage, taking care of herself and helping others, which she ably did.

When Johnston's Army come through, she, her husband and her mother, were called to go to Cedar Valley to herd and protect the family stock, horses, cows and sheep. They returned in August, and moved to Big Cottonwood Canyon for the purpose of making lumber for the army. She cooked, washed and mended for about 25 men. On the 7th of Feb. 1859, their first child, a son, Hiatt Elijah was born.

Helen Alcy possessed a natural talent for nursing and caring for the sick. She was often on maternity cases. In 1861 Francis M. Lyman set her apart to be a midwife. She was alert. She had attended the schools of Salt Lake City. She was always reading and searching for knowledge from every available source on this subject. The first baby she delivered, after being set apart as a midwife, was James Osterman (Doctor). He was born in 1861.

In November 1862, the Maxfields were called by Brigham Young, to go to Dixie. Here, Helen Alcy helped the sick and suffering; gave comfort and good will to those with whom she came in contact. Often her baby was placed under a sagebrush while she picked cotton and